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# Newsletter



## GRADUATE SCHOOL ★ USDA

November 30, 1953

To the Faculty, Committee Members and others associated with the Graduate School:

**It is our policy**

to explore every possibility of developing educational opportunities for Federal field employees wherever they may be located. Few effective means of direct service to field employees by GS are apparent. Besides, it seems more desirable and more feasible to encourage the development of such services by existing educational institutions.

By encouraging attention to the total Federal population, we hope to see more interest on the part of educational institutions in the possibility of contributing to the improvement of public service generally. This is the proper function of those institutions. Fuller and more positive development of that function would be in the public interest.

The great need is for a mechanism or a pattern to set up GS-type programs at other locations where there are Federal employees. We, therefore, have sought cooperation with a few interested institutions to formulate and test procedures on a pilot basis. The first institution to undertake to serve in this manner was Boston University, through its Public Service Institute. Now it is extending to Federal employees some of its services heretofore available principally to State, County, and Municipal employees. We hope the University will continue the effort long enough to make a thorough test of these procedures.

In the meantime New York University has announced a similar program stimulated by the Graduate School. Other institutions are showing interest.

We believe the development of such favorable relations with educational institutions, designed to benefit Federal employees and the Federal service, is possible without subsidy. The employees would pay the respective institutions for the courses offered. GS would continue its co-operation without compensation. Agencies of the Federal government would benefit only through the improvement in service rendered by employees.

### **Our first research grant**

was received three weeks after we announced that GS regulations had been revised to permit us to accept funds for this purpose. The award of \$20,700 from the National Science Foundation will enable Ralph R. Shaw, USDA Librarian, to make a nationwide investigation of the effectiveness of information sources available to American scientists.

The study is an expansion and refinement of a survey recently completed at Johns Hopkins University by Saul Hurner, librarian of the JHU Applied Physics Laboratory. Mr. Hurner has joined GS to work with Dr. Shaw on the project. Headquarters are in the USDA library. The report on Mr. Hurner's preliminary study is scheduled for publication in the January 1954 issue of INDUSTRIAL AND ENGINEERING CHEMISTRY.

### **Our first exchange student**

under the Fulbright program is Rita Joy Maurice, an English girl who is spending the year doing research on sampling and sampling theory under the supervision of W. E. Deming.

Miss Maurice, a 1951 graduate in economics from University College, London, has served as assistant lecturer in economics and statistics at University College for the past two years and taken part in seminars at the London School of Economics.

It appeared at first that her application to study statistics in GS would not be granted. But when she enrolled at the University of Michigan, Dr. L. Kish of the Survey Research Institute confirmed her opinion that she should do the work here. We have arranged with the Institute of International Education to have her grant transferred.

### **"Instruction of high caliber,**

supplementary to both the regular public service training conducted by New York University and the in-service training provided by the Federal agencies." That is how NYU described the Federal Personnel Curriculum begun this semester in cooperation with GS.

The courses are: Human Relations in Administration taught by Lawrence H. Baer, deputy regional director U. S. Civil Service Commission; Federal Organization and Methods Analysis, taught by Daniel M. Gilmartin, chief of area wage and classification office, New York Naval Shipyard; Federal Personnel Management, with Charles M. Lunz, assistant area chief, Bureau of Old Age and Survivors' Insurance, Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, as instructor; and Federal Budget Management, taught by Joseph W. Burke, chief of budget and fiscal branch, Office of Regional Commissioner for Internal Revenue Service.

### **A scholarship**

for a GS course has been granted to Hunter M. Jones, Jr., an interne under the JMA program at the Civil Service Commission. Mr. Jones is a graduate of the University of California and holds a master's degree in International administration from Columbia. He plans to work for a certified statement of accomplishment in public administration.

### **A job in Washington**

is not the objective of six GS students who are spending full days in the South Building of USDA this year. These are the 4-H fellows who are receiving training designed to help them in their jobs as leaders of farm boys and girls in their home States.

The States in this instance, are: Vermont for Russell W. Smith, Orange County 4-H Club agent; New York for Ruth Ann Seacord, associate agent, Oneida county; West Virginia for Betty J. Pingley, 4-H agent for Upshur county; Wisconsin for Eldora E. Keske, August 1953, graduate in home economics from Wisconsin University; Nebraska for Harold L. Allen, assistant agricultural extension editor at the University of Nebraska; and Louisiana for Lynn L. Pesson, associate 4-H agent for St. Mary's parish.

Their classes in GS this semester are Principles and Techniques in Extension Teaching given by Gladys Gallup, and Basic Research Methods and Techniques given by Laurel K. Sabrosky. Next semester they will study 4-H Club Organization and Procedures under the leadership of Ed Aiton.

Mary L. Collings of the Division of Field Studies and Training, USDA Extension Service, tells me that in addition to their GS courses four of the students are enrolled for work in the College of Education at the University of Maryland and one is enrolled at American University. The training program is set up so that the students devote about half of their time to study of USDA and other governmental activities, about a third to specific research on 4-H problems, and the remainder to related academic work.

### **Five new books**

that will appeal to the general reader as well as to students in the courses for which they are references have been added to the GS collection in the USDA library. They are WHO SPEAKS FOR MAN by Norman Cousins, IN THE MINDS OF MEN by Gardner Murphy, SURVEYS, POLLS AND SAMPLES by Mildred B. Parten, MODERN FEATURE WRITING by Dewitt C. Reddick and ABRAHAM LINCOLN by Benjamin P. Thomas.

Applications to borrow the books must be made in person and you will be asked to show your GS identification card. The loan period is limited to one week.

Vera Jensen, GS bookstore manager, suggests that you may also find other books in the GS collection of interest. They are listed in a special card catalog in the library.

### **Fellowships for 700 students**

with special abilities in science are announced for the 1954-55 academic year by the National Science Foundation. The majority will go to graduate students seeking masters or doctors degrees in science. A limited number of awards will be made to postdoctoral applicants. Requests for fellowship application forms should be made to The Fellowship Office, National Research Council, 2101 Constitution Avenue N. W., Washington 25, D. C.

**New courses filled to capacity**

this semester are: Maps and Charts, Federal Hospital Administration, Human Relations in Administration, and Theory of Geodesy.

Second sections have been added for Aerial Photography Interpretation, Applied Climatology, and Practical Electronics. The first two are being given at the Navy Hydrographic Office, the third at the Bureau of Ships. There are 54 students in the three courses given at the Agricultural Research Center, Beltsville, Md.

But total enrollment is down by 23 percent. Registrar Louise Sullivan estimates the final figures for this semester will show 2600 students in 141 courses. Small enrollments made it necessary to cancel 88 scheduled courses. Departmentwise, the greatest number of these cancellations were in the social sciences where there were enough students in only 14 of the 35 scheduled courses to warrant continuing them.

**Like life itself**

is Eduard C. Lindeman's description of an education workshop. In the April 1953 issue of HIGHER EDUCATION, Dr. Lindeman went on to say, "Persons trained in bona fide workshops have dealt with the same kind of reality which confront them in life and hence will be equipped with that variety of courage which comes alone through experience."

"Perhaps the greatest of all advantages of workshop learning lies in the realm of human relations. Teachers and counselors are used in the normal fashion. Everybody works. The teacher does not stand outside the process, pontificating as an authority. He is a part of the work team. ... At the same time all members of the workshop group come to have insights with respect to each other, insights which are revealed only in a work relationship. Each individual reveals his true self. In the end he comes to be appreciated for his real worth, his ability to perform."

"If we are to make progress in the improvement of human relations, it seems to me we shall need to learn how to work with others. Indeed, this is the basic test of good intentions toward others, a demonstration that work performed cooperatively leads to an appreciation of human differences. Mere talk is not enough."

Sincerely,



Director

